

MACOMB COUNTY REPORT

MACOMB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



2005



A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners is pleased to present this annual report to update you on the financial status of Macomb County. Inside you will find charts and explanations to help you understand how your tax dollars are used to fund county services.

Also included are informative articles, profiles and photos to give you an in-depth look at the services provided to you by your County Commissioners.

We hope you enjoy reading this report. Please keep it handy as a reference. If you need further information throughout the year, your County Commissioner (as shown on pages 15 -18) is available to assist your needs.

- *The Macomb County
Board of Commissioners*

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AWARDS RECEIVED

Exemplary. That's one word that the National Association of Counties (NACo) uses to describe members who earn the organization's Achievement Awards for management and innovative service delivery of various government programs.

Last year, for the 23rd consecutive year, Macomb County won more NACo awards than any of the other 82 Michigan counties.

"While we're obviously thrilled to have earned the respect and recognition these awards provide, it's important to recognize that we're simply doing what any good government must do — managing our affairs in a responsible, responsive and effective manner," said Nancy M. White, chair of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners. "Even more important to us is recognizing that it's our county employees who helped earn these distinctions. They are working hard to stretch taxpayer dollars while providing top-notch service."

Macomb County NACo Achievement Awards:

- "Community Emergency Preparedness Workbook and Guidelines," developed by the Department of Emergency Management and Communication in cooperation with the Department of Planning & Economic Development
- "Electronic Payment of Individual Training Accounts," a system for expediting job-training services offered by the Macomb/St. Clair Workforce Development Board
- "Housing Education," developed through Macomb's Michigan State University Extension
- "Incorporating Water Quality and Natural Resource Protection in Delia Park," developed in partnership with the Department of Planning & Economic Development and the Department of Public Works
- "Innovative Marine Pollution Prevention Techniques," created by the Health Department
- "Meeting the Need; Expanding Emergency Food Pantry Locations," organized by Macomb County Community Services Agency (MCCSA)
- "Multi-City Corridor Study," a collaborative project of the Department of Planning & Economic Development with the cities of Center Line and Warren
- "On-Site Sewage Disposal and Well Maintenance Outreach" of the Health Department
- "Raising Funds, Food and Awareness" as organized by the Parks and Recreation Department in collaboration with L.E.T.S. E.A.T. (Leaders Emerging to Support Emergency Assistance Together)
- "Reducing Expenditures with Gift Cards," a program of MCCSA that made it possible for Head Start teachers to purchase supplies for classrooms within a budget
- "Show and Tell," a Health Department program for students throughout the county that provides vivid demonstrations of the chemicals found in and produced by tobacco for students throughout the county
- "Tilling the Soil of Opportunity: A Business Management Course for Agriculture" by MSU Extension in collaboration with Planning & Economic Development
- "Workforce Development Programs for Employers & Job Seekers; A Catalog of Services," developed by Macomb/St. Clair Workforce Development Board

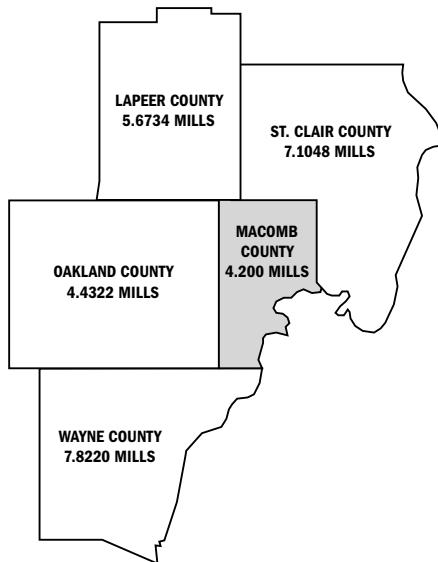
"BEST OF CATEGORY"

In all, Macomb County received 14 awards, including a "Best of Category" (Health) award presented for the "Portable Supports" program of Macomb County Community Mental Health. This program makes it possible for some individuals to live more independently, outside a supervised group home environment. At the same time, the program costs about 22 percent less to operate.

John Kinch, director of business management for Macomb County Community Mental Health, accepts the "Best of Category" award from NACo officials.



Macomb County Consistently Offers the Lowest Tax Base in the Region



Macomb County Finances in Top Form

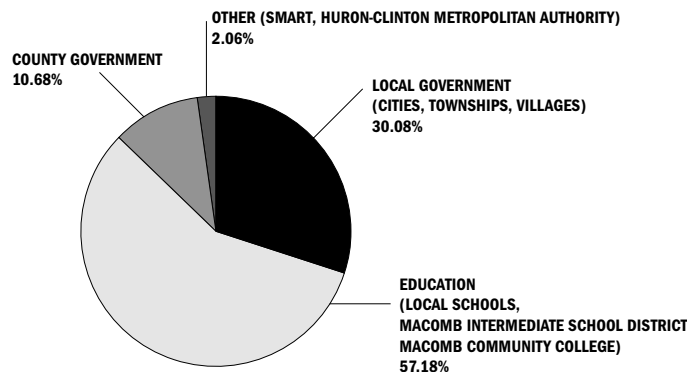
Macomb County has received the highest possible credit rating from both Moody's Investors Service (Aaa) and Standard & Poor's (AAA), two of the country's most prestigious Wall Street rating agencies. Only two counties in Michigan (of 83) and 34 other counties in the nation (of 3,066) enjoy this distinction.

Triple-A rated counties are those with a deep, diverse and growing economy, strong financial management and a low debt burden in addition to proven ability to weather all economic cycles by maintaining tight budgetary controls, maintaining sufficient reserves and planning for future contingencies.

Achieving the highest rating makes it possible for Macomb County to secure needed funds at the absolute lowest rates. In addition, cities, townships, villages and school districts can take advantage of the county's top rating by seeking its guarantee on future borrowing.

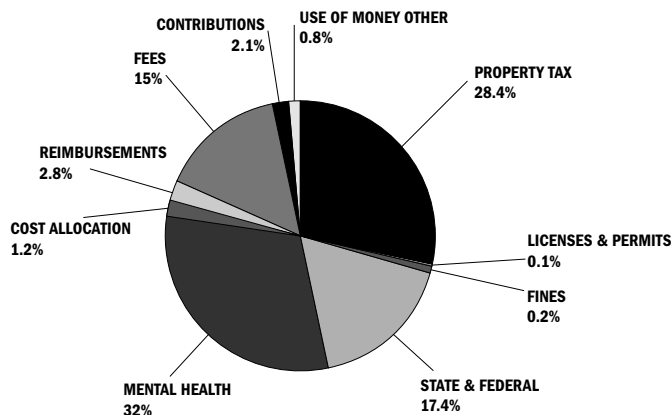
2005 AVERAGE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION

Only 11¢ of every property tax dollar goes to support county services.



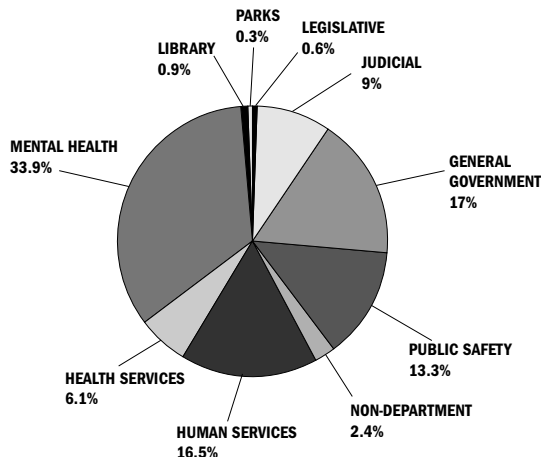
2005 MACOMB COUNTY BUDGETED REVENUES

\$411 Million



2005 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES

\$411 Million



SENIOR CITIZEN SERVICES

It's been said a society can best be judged by the way it treats its seniors. At Macomb County's Department of Senior Citizen Services, we've set out to demonstrate our caring as a community through a number of key programs, all of which demonstrate how much the Macomb County Board of Commissioners appreciates senior citizens.

911 Cell Phones
586-469-6313

Adult Day Services
586-466-6817

Dementia Training for First Responders
586-466-6817

Discount Prescriptions
586-469-6313

Elder Prescription Insurance Coverage
586-469-6313

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
586-469-6315

Retail Discount Card
586-469-6313

Senior Citizen Chore Service
586-469-5012

Support and Discussion Groups
586-469-6313

Seniors Legal Assistance
586-469-6406

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners knows that the needs of its more than 140,000 senior citizens are unique. The Department of Senior Citizen Services delivers a variety of programs to help provide those needs.

Prescription Drugs Discount Services

Since 2000, Macomb seniors have saved more than \$17 million through the **Senior Discount Prescription Program**, which serves those 60 and older who have no other prescription coverage. Equipped with a card, seniors can receive



In 2004, people age 65 and older represented 14 percent of the overall Macomb County population. By 2030, this percentage is projected to increase to 25 percent of the overall population.

discounts on brand name or generic drugs at participating pharmacies. There's also an optical discount available to participants.

A similar program is also available to others. At a cost of just \$14 annually for a master member, the **Age 18-59 Discount Prescription Program** offers the same benefits as the senior version. Macomb County also guides its seniors through the state's **Elder Prescription Insurance Coverage (EPIC)** and has information available on other forms of prescription assistance and the Medicare program.

Senior Citizen Retail Discount Card

A growing number of Macomb County businesses are recognizing the purchasing power of those 60 years and older by offering discounts on a wide variety of products and services.

911 Cell Phones

When emergencies occur, time is of the essence. That's one reason

Macomb County provides free 911 cellular phones to seniors. With no service contract required, the phones connect directly to emergency personnel (911) anywhere in the country. Those interested in donating working phones (with batteries and charging equipment) or needing a phone can call 586-469-6313 for more information.

Support and Discussion Groups

A number of support and discussion groups, including those dealing with grief, late life divorce, caregivers and dementia are included in a wide range of services available to seniors.

Adult Day Services

With centers in Clinton Township and St. Clair Shores, seniors and their families find ways to improve their everyday lives. More than 130 residents took part in the programs in 2004.

Dementia Training for First Responders

Macomb County also is dedicated to providing **Dementia Training for First Responders**, making sure those who serve are well equipped to provide the best possible service.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Seniors raising grandchildren and other relatives may need help through support or other networking activities. This program includes intergenerational activities such as skating parties, picnics and a summer camp.

Legal Assistance Program

Attorneys specializing in elder law are available to answer questions, provide advice and referrals, prepare documents or any number of legal services to those 60 years of age and older.

There's more ...

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners is committed to



In 2004, more than 3,000 individuals attended the Older American Festival for a day that offers dancing, entertainment, food, information and fun!

serving senior citizens through a wide range of programs, all of which are designed to provide a high quality of life. Whether it's acting as a resource advocate or referring seniors to counseling programs, we're committed to doing what it takes to help.

Information is available at 586-469-6313. Chore and housing information, help with tax assistance programs, volunteer opportunities, Focus Hope assistance and general information and referral services are also available from the Department of Senior Citizen Services.

22ND ANNUAL OLDER AMERICAN FESTIVAL

Sponsored by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Wednesday, June 22

The festival will be held at Freedom Hill County Park, located on Metropolitan Parkway between Schoenherr and Utica roads. Gates will open at 10 a.m. The theme for this year's event is "Cruisin' To The Future." Seniors are invited to wear nautical attire and "sail away" with food, fun and entertainment.

Offered for residents age 60 and older, the day begins at 10 a.m. with FREE health tests and an exhibitors tent that will provide valuable information and showcase programs and services tailored for seniors.

Beginning at noon, FREE box lunches* will be distributed and special treats will be offered at discount prices. A live band will perform big band entertainment for your listening and dancing pleasure, and the bingo tent will open and accept new players every 45 minutes.

Michigan State University Extension will be on hand again this year with exhibits and information on horticulture, lawn care and additional programs of interest to seniors.

The Board of Commissioners, The Department of Senior Services and the county employees who volunteer at this special event look forward to seeing you on June 22! For more information, call 586-469-5125.

* Lunches are provided first come, first served. Due to federal funding requirements, those who receive a free lunch will be required to provide their name, address, date of birth and signature.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Your good health is the primary objective of the Macomb County Health Department. Ensuring the physical well-being of county residents is a goal that's been achieved through a number of initiatives in the past year.

Hotline 586-466-7923	Environmental/Water Quality 586-469-5236	Immunization Clinics: 586-469-5372 (Mount Clemens) 586-466-6800 (St. Clair Shores) 586-573-2090 (Warren)
Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening 586-412-3384	Family Planning 586-469-5491	Lake St. Clair Regional Monitoring 586-466-7923
Cardiovascular Disease Risk Reduction 586-412-3387	Food Safety Training 586-469-5236	Nursing Services: 586-469-5520 (Mount Clemens) 586-466-6800 (St. Clair Shores) 586-573-2210 (Warren)
Child Passenger Safety 586-412-3398	Health Education 586-412-3399	Nutrition Services 586-412-3396
Children's Special Health Care Services 586-466-6855	Healthy Habits for Healthy Kids 586-412-3396	Swimming Pool Operators Training 586-469-5236
Communicable Disease Report & Travel Information 586-783-8190	Healthy Kids/MiChild 586-469-5492	Women, Infants and Children (WIC) 586-469-5471
Community Health Outreach Services: 586-792-8846 (Clinton Township) 586-469-7694 (Mount Clemens)	Hearing & Vision Screening 586-412-5945	Safe Sleep/Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) 586-573-2210
Environmental Health: 586-469-5236 (Mount Clemens) 586-573-2240 (Warren)	HIV/AIDS Counseling & Testing 586-573-2040	
	Household Hazardous Waste Collection 586-466-7923	

Hotline

The Health Department maintains a phone Hotline for “hot topics” such as flu shots, radon detection, rodent control, anthrax, disposal of household hazardous waste, communicable diseases, safe disposal of medications, and other breaking news. The Hotline number is 586-466-7923.

Protecting Our Citizens

In 2004 the Health Department, continued its intense effort in the ongoing program of vaccinations for both children and adults. That included some 50,000 doses of the influenza vaccine being given and 44,000 doses of other vaccines to protect children from a wide range of vaccine-preventable diseases.

Environmental Stewardship

Toxic materials need to be put in their place. That’s exactly what the Health Department has done – to nearly 65 tons of toxic materials –through the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. Collected materials, including batteries, waste oil, gasoline, oil-based paint, and pesticides are sent for proper disposal or reclamation.

A grant from Michigan Department of Environmental Quality helped to initiate a fluorescent light tube exchange program, allowing residents to bring used mercury-containing tubes and exchange them for a low-mercury, energy-efficient replacement.

Expired Medication Disposal Program

Realizing that the improper handling of medications and personal care products can be harmful to children, pets and the environment, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners took steps in 2004 to investigate ways to protect the population.

The result was an initiative by the Health Department to collect outdated and expired medications from county residents. That effort, which includes the proper disposal of the unused and expired products, began in early 2005.

Additional Health Department initiatives included the response to reports of mercury spills, promotion of the “Healthy Kids-Healthy Futures” nutrition and physical activity program, the training of local agencies on accessing health care for

children, and the celebration of National Women's Health Week in May.

Prepared to Protect the Public

The Health Department used funding from the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to focus on ways to fight bioterrorism and nuclear and chemical threats. The department's bioterrorism and emergency preparedness planning efforts included participation in a full-scale field exercise involving the county's Department of Emergency Management, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, and a number of area hospitals. The exercise, which gauged the department's ability to respond to a crisis, was deemed a clear success.

Macomb County also trains food service managers as part of a **Food Safety Training for Food Service Establishments** regulation adopted by the Board of Commissioners.

Under the regulation, every establishment serving food to the public must have at least one manager certified in food service sanitation, the intent being to better



protect the public against food-borne illness. Some 200 managers were trained by the Health Department's Environmental Health Services Division in 2004.

top

Outreach programs for youth help students learn the importance of avoiding harmful substances and staying healthy.

right

The Health Department conducts some 6,000 annual food inspections to ensure local restaurants are properly storing and handling food.



MACOMB COUNTY WATER QUALITY BOARD

The Macomb County Water Quality Board, established as a result of the Blue Ribbon Commission Report on Lake St. Clair in 1997, is a volunteer board appointed by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners to advocate for the water quality of Lake St. Clair and its tributaries.

**Macomb County Water Quality Board
586-469-5235**

In its seven years of existence, the board has been successful in highlighting problems such as significant E. coli counts in specific geographic areas, the existence of sanitary sewer overflows, the need for water quality monitoring and spills in the St. Clair River.

The advocacy of the Water Quality Board has made Lake St. Clair an important issue for federal, state and local policy makers. It has brought more than \$5 million into the county for identification

and resolution of such problems and has served as an important means of communication with citizens on this vital environmental public health issue.

In 2004, the Health Department implemented the Lake St. Clair Regional Monitoring Project. This project, funded primarily by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, will help Macomb County protect environmental health throughout the Lake St. Clair and Clinton River watersheds.

ANIMAL SHELTER

The Animal Shelter is responsible for returning lost pets to their owners, promotes animal adoptions and provides care to lost and abandoned animals.

Animal Shelter
586-469-5115
www.macombcountymi.gov/publichealth

The Animal Shelter also protects livestock, regulates the keeping of domestic animals, and licenses dogs. Protecting the health and safety of residents is a

primary purpose of the Animal Shelter, a mission that's achieved by ensuring the quarantine or testing of animals that have bitten people, and by educating residents on care and control issues that relate to animals.

The shelter, located on Dunham Road in Clinton Township, is open every non-holiday Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



MARTHA T. BERRY MEDICAL CARE FACILITY

The Martha T. Berry Medical Care Facility, owned and operated by Macomb County, is a bright spot in the lives of residents and the families and friends who support them.

Martha T. Berry
586-469-5265
www.macombcountymi.gov/marthatberry

A mainstay institution in the county since its inception in 1949, Martha T. Berry (MTB) has served with distinction and continues to improve and evolve, notably with the building of a new addition (Phase I) in 2003 and a major renovation project for the existing building (Phases II - IV).

Phase II of the renovation project—which includes 48 new resident bedrooms with attached bathrooms as well as an overall modernization of the environment—opened in October 2004. Each completed phase of the project supports up-to-date compliance with federal and state fire and safety codes. Residents and family are quick to point out how uplifting and more home-like the facility is.



At the end of 2004, MTB reached an occupancy rate of 98 to 99 percent of the 179 available beds.

Committed to Quality

MTB's administrative management team, through its membership in both the American and Michigan Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, is committed to the principles outlined in the "Quality First" Membership Covenant. The commitment includes special stewardship responsibilities for maintaining continuous

quality improvement, public disclosure and accountability, consumer and family rights, workforce excellence, community involvement, ethical practices and financial integrity.

MTB is actively involved in implementing the state of Michigan's Best Practice Guidelines and incorporating them into the facility's policies and procedures toward positive outcomes. MTB is committed to achieving excellence in the quality of care while promoting quality of life and to earning the public's trust.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

Emergencies. No one likes to see them happen, but when they do, having an effective response is vital and often life-saving.

Emergency Management & Communications
586-469-5270
www.macombcountymi.gov/oem

Anticipating the worst is the job of Macomb County's Office of Emergency Management and Communications, the organization responsible for planning and coordinating the public response to any emergency situation or homeland security threat that may occur within Macomb County.

Preparation Pays Off

Being prepared to respond to and recover from the effects of all hazards including terrorist threats, means having an organization equipped to do so. This includes providing the equipment, training and planning resources necessary to respond to a natural or man-made disaster.

Through grant funding provided by the federal Department of Homeland Security, the Office of Emergency Management and Communications continues to take a proactive approach to dealing with the worst possible scenarios.

In recent years, proactive preparation has included the purchase of outdoor warning sirens, personal protective equipment, automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) and emergency vehicles – designed to properly equip our emergency personnel.

Efforts by the department resulted in an achievement award from the National Association of Counties in recognition of Macomb County's Community Emergency Preparedness Workbook and Guidelines.

Planning Ahead

Every year, the department sponsors training events dealing with incident command, weapons of mass destruction and biological incidents. It hosts full-scale exercises involving the actual movement of emergency personnel and equipment to test the plans. Such exercises help participants identify the strengths and, more importantly, the weaknesses of plans. The best time to gain such knowledge is prior to the occurrence of an actual event.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

The department is also working hard to update the county's Hazard Mitigation Plan, which identifies various emergency threats and risk in the area, identifying projects that would ease the impact of any number of hazards. Under the plan, funds at the federal and state levels may be available to cover the costs of the resulting projects.

Communications

Looking ahead, the department also is working to bring an advanced radio system to the county, one that will greatly enhance communications capabilities and provide interoperability for emergency responders throughout the area. Phase I of the project, the installation of nine communications towers, is expected to follow with completion of the entire project by 2007.



top

Realistic drills help first responders from all Macomb County communities to be prepared in the event of a real emergency.

bottom

Is your household prepared to react? Emergency Management and Communications has developed an award-winning manual designed to prepare residents to handle all types of emergencies, including weather-related emergencies, interruption of utility service and terrorist attack. Contact the department for a free copy.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

Community participation. Self sufficiency. Independence. Each of these qualities is at the heart of what Macomb County's Community Mental Health (MCCMH) department promotes through its services to the community.

Community Mental Health Access Center
586-948-0222

Administrative Office
586-469-5275

CARE (Substance Abuse Treatment)
586-541-2273

Crisis Center
(24-hour assistance, any situation)
586-307-9100

Office of Community Relations
586-469-6958

Office of Recipient Rights
586-469-6528

[www.macombcountymi.gov/
communitymentalhealth](http://www.macombcountymi.gov/communitymentalhealth)

e-mail address
ocr@mccmh.net



According to the National Mental Health Association, more than 54 million Americans have a mental disorder in any given year. Fewer than 8 million seek treatment.

Award-Winning Programs

Starting with the award-winning "Portable Supports" program (which earned "Best of Category" recognition from the National Association of Counties), MCCMH improved service by providing persons with mental health needs who can live independently, given the opportunity to do so. This was accomplished through a network of individually designed supports and services.

Also of note, the MCCMH's Crisis Center became certified by the American Association of Suicidology, the standard-setting organization for crisis services.

The certification recognizes that an organization's structure, methods and procedures have been evaluated and meet or exceed specific standards. Standards include administration, training, service delivery, services in a life-threatening situation, ethical issues, community integration and program evaluation.

In awarding the certification, the examiner noted the Crisis Center's ability to assess

and respond to life threatening situations presented by individual callers.

With this certification, the Crisis Center joins the National Hopeline Network, which sponsors the 1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433) hotline. Callers from Macomb County who dial the number are connected directly to the Macomb County Crisis Center.

Substance Abuse Treatment Services

These services for adult drug court participants are now being provided through the Macomb County Office of Substance Abuse, a division of MCCMH. The move follows an agreement with the 16th Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court and has resulted in a full scope of treatment services being available to participants.

Juvenile Dual-Diagnosis Court Program

MCCMH also began this joint program with Macomb County Juvenile Court and the Board of Commissioners. Under the program, non-violent youth offenders who are diagnosed with both a mental health condition and a co-occurring substance abuse condition are offered the option of community-based treatment



Depression and anxiety disorders - the two most common mental illnesses - each affect 19 million American adults annually (NIMH 1999). Macomb County Community Mental Health can help.

and monitoring rather than residential correctional placement.

In the 15 months since its inception, 21 youths and their families have been diverted to community-based treatment under the program. More than half have successfully avoided residential correctional placement and the graduation rate is steadily improving. Plans are underway to expand the program in 2005.

Finally, MCCMH received four new block grants from the Michigan Department of Community Health in support of three programs:

Recovery Enhancement Project

This program is designed to obtain and

develop resource materials focusing on consumer and peer-to-peer recovery principles in mental health. Funds also provide for consumer training in peer self-help group facilitation, a consumer speaker's program, and a consumer-driven recovery conference in Macomb County.

Arab-American and Chaldean Anti-Stigma Project

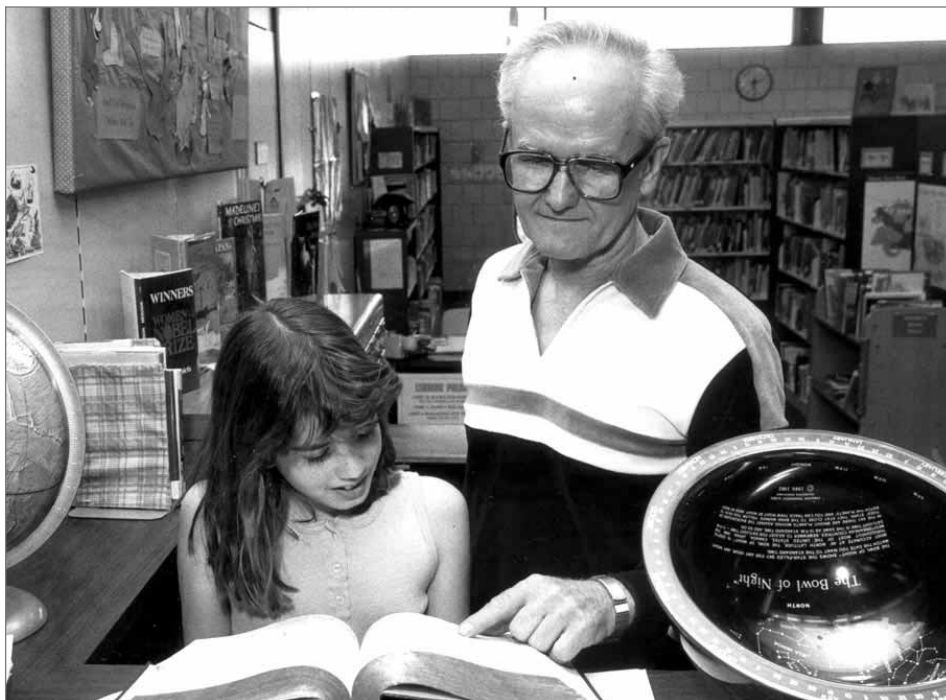
Now in its second year, the program supports peer self-help facilitation and community education designed to meet unique cultural needs. The initiative supports culturally aware education about mental illness, the development of an Arabic language community resource guide for mental health and related services, and

ongoing cultural sensitivity training for community groups.

Respite Services for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbance or Developmental Disabilities

Additional funds were granted to provide respite services for children with SED or DD, with options including family friend respite, one-to-one respite, recreational respite, and respite in a licensed foster care home or other group setting.

MACOMB COUNTY LIBRARY



In an increasingly information-dependent society, the Macomb County Library promotes the intellectual development of all Macomb County residents.

Macomb County Library
586-286-6660
www.libcoop.net/mcl

Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
586-286-1580

Macomb Literacy Partners
586-286-2750
www.macombliteracy.org

Kids on the Block
586-286-158
www.libcoop.net/macse

Reference Center
586-412-5990

It's arguably one of the most overlooked yet important facilities in a community—and one of the most essential to an overall quality of life. The library allows county residents access to a variety of

cultural, educational and recreational resources that brings us closer together while enriching us all.

Expanded Services

The library provides a unique reference collection with concentrations on business, health and government documents. More recently, changes have been made to provide service in other areas of great demand, like career information and expanded use of the World Wide Web through wireless connections. By integrating technology, many of those resources are now available through the library homepage. Further integration of technology-based resources is also planned.

Special Needs

Citizens who require specialized support can tap into the resources of the Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. This section of the library provides a wide variety of resources for citizens facing challenges. Whether



top

Each day, hundreds of residents access the Internet through our computer lab. This free service can help students research homework assignments, job seekers find employment opportunities or the perpetually interested satisfy their need to know.

left

Remember the days of the card catalog? Today, the Internet makes it possible to search for materials by book title, author or subject. Once you find a book that matches your needs, the Internet can also help you to find the closest local library that has it available! Check out our website.

it's large-print books, talking books, or descriptive videos, the library is prepared to serve all residents.

The library section also offers a broad scope of programs and materials for children. Young ones with learning challenges can find visual and audio materials that help them develop their reading skills. Even those who aren't facing the challenge of a world without perfect sight can gain new insights with the library's award-winning "Kids on the Block," a puppet performance series that helps children understand social issues, such as bullying and gaining sensitivity to multiculturalism.

Does someone you know need to learn to read? Would you be willing to volunteer your time and talents to give someone the gift of reading? Give the Macomb Literacy Partners a call at 586-286-2750. They offer free one-on-one tutoring for adults and are always looking for volunteers to help.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION (MSUE)

By providing programs throughout the community at little or no cost, MSU Extension applies the research-based knowledge of the university to help people improve their lives.

MSU Extension
586-469-5180
www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension

As the non-formal educational component of Michigan State University, MSUE offers community programming to address a number of areas identified through a community planning and assessment process. Program areas include: Community Coordinated Child Care (4C), 4-H Youth Development, Families, Food and Nutrition, Horticulture and Agriculture, Housing, Natural Resources and Public Policy, and Sea Grant/Great Lakes Education.

Home Improvement

Last year, MSUE teamed with Housing Opportunities Macomb, a non-profit agency, to offer a four-week “Practical Home and Garden” program that was funded by Sears at Eastland Mall.

Participants developed facade-improvement plans, including cost analyses. They heard from guest speakers, including a blight enforcement officer and a Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program staff member. The 18 successful participants received a \$400 certificate from Sears for planned improvements.

Environmental Stewardship

MSUE also provided education for local municipality officials on addressing the impact of the Emerald Ash Borer, bringing together a panel of MSU experts and others. The program, which was a cooperative effort with the Macomb Conservation District, included discussion about and demonstration of new management



The Master Gardener program is one of the most widely used services of MSU Extension. Whether you are a green thumb or all thumbs, we can help answer your gardening questions.

options based on current research, including treatment, removal and replacement plans for municipal trees. A portable ash mill was also demonstrated to encourage recovering recyclable resources.

Participants also had the opportunity to learn from one another. All agreed that an open line of communication is key to the successful control of the Emerald Ash Borer in Michigan.

Partners In Good Health

In 2004, MSU Extension collaborated with organizations in Macomb County to educate citizens about ways to improve their health through increased consumption of produce. Two such collaborations led to “Plant a Parcel for the Hungry” and “Project Fresh.”

In cooperation with Macomb County produce growers and Forgotten Harvest (a non-profit food surplus collection

and distribution organization), MSUE created “Plant a Parcel for the Hungry” as a way of feeding even more people. Macomb produce growers donated over 15 tons of fresh produce from their farms or through the Mount Clemens Farmers Market. This partnership sparked a 730 percent increase in donations over the previous season.

Equally important is the “Project Fresh” partnership between Extension and the Michigan Department of Community Health’s Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Extension helped educate WIC clients about the health benefits of fresh produce and participants received \$20 in coupons to buy produce at the Mount Clemens Farmers Market. In total some 1,350 Macomb families redeemed \$17,486 worth of “Project Fresh” coupons.

JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER

Safety and security were at the top of the list of priorities to be accomplished with the completion in September 2004 of Phase One of a three-year renovation project for the Macomb County Juvenile Justice Center.



The grand opening to celebrate completion of the Phase I renovations showcased a new building with 80 secure beds. The building that also adds a number of technological features, all of which serve to enhance safety and security within the center.

Also featured in the new facility are three outdoor gymnasiums, two fenced-in athletic fields, a state-of-the-art kitchen, and a secure area for resident intake.

The entire renovation/construction project, bringing a total addition of 100 secure beds to the facility, is scheduled for completion in Fall 2005.

The Macomb Juvenile Justice Center includes a school facility operated by L'Anse Creuse Public Schools, a program that is fully accredited through the Correctional Education Association. The program had 824 enrollments in the 2003-2004 school year.

VETERANS SERVICES: SERVING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

Macomb County Department of Veterans Services provides assistance to nearly 5,000 men and women each year.

Veterans Services
586-469-5315
www.macombcountymi.gov/veterans

From completing applications for federal benefits, offering counseling to veterans and family members, providing transportation to the V.A. Medical Center in Detroit or assisting the families of deceased veterans with burial benefits, our office stands ready to help.

In addition, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners provides attractive cases for memorial flags through this department for families of veterans who have died after Jan 1, 2004.



Honor Guard presents the colors at the Board of Commissioners 2004 Older American Festival.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHAT YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DO FOR YOU



The County Board has 26 commissioners who are elected to two-year terms. They elect a chair, vice chair and a sargeant-at-arms from among themselves. One of the board's primary tasks is adopting and watching over the annual county budget – a total of \$411 million for 2005.

Board of Commissioners
586-469-5125
[www.macombcountymi.gov/
boardofcommissioners](http://www.macombcountymi.gov/boardofcommissioners)

The board's other duties include:

- Creating and monitoring county services and programs
- Setting policies and procedures
- Passing resolutions that provide for the health, safety and welfare of our residents
- Ensuring the proper administration of federal and state mandated programs including their budgets, such as the WIC (Women, Infant and Children) program

Commissioners help to influence the programs and services offered by each department through a committee. The board is careful when spending your money, making sure that the budget is balanced, the bills are paid, and something is put away for rainy days. Macomb County's financial reputation earns us top ratings from Wall Street. This allows us to get the very best rates on the rare occasions that we must sell bonds. While Macomb County is the third largest county in Michigan, the tax rate for its citizens is second lowest!

Commissioners are serious about representing constituents. They are always ready to consider suggestions from taxpayers or handle complaints, whether it's at a meeting or by phone, fax, e-mail or letter.

The Board of Commissioners would also like to acknowledge the competence and dedication of more than 2,400 full-time and 300 part-time employees. With their help, we are able to keep Macomb County a great place to live and work. Outside of work hours, many employees devote countless hours as volunteers with nonprofit organizations, schools, hospitals and churches. In honor of their commitment to making a difference, the Board of Commissioners is pleased to sponsor "Casual Fridays" which makes it possible for employees to contribute one dollar per week in exchange for a chance to dress comfortably at work. In 2004, income from Casual Fridays contributed more than \$33,000 to local worthy causes.

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

Budget	Operational Services
Finance	Planning & Economic Development
Personnel	Senior Services
Health Services	
Community Services	
Justice & Public Safety	
Legislative & Administrative Services	

These committees meet monthly or at the call of the chairman of that committee. Business matters recommended by committee are sent forward to the full board for final approval.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND DISTRICTS MAP



Nancy M. White
County Board Chair
District 20
Clinton Township
& Fraser
office: 586-469-5711
fax: 586-469-5993
nancy.white@
macombcountymi.gov



Joan Flynn
Vice Chair
District 6
Sterling Heights
& Warren
home: 586-774-2689
fax: 586-774-3882
flynn128@comcast.net



Leonard Haggerty
Sergeant-at-Arms
District 21
Roseville
home: 586-415-4388



Andrey Duzyj
District 1
Warren
home: 586-757-7304
fax: 586-469-5993
anduz1@aol.com



Sue Rocca
District 7
Sterling Heights
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Marvin E. Sauger
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Center Line, Warren
home: 586-759-5947
cell: 313-505-6501



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Sterling Heights
home: 586-268-7558
dkola43@comcast.net



Phillip A. DiMaria
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Eastpointe
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commishD3@aol.com



Robert Mijac
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Sterling Heights
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rmijac@comcast.net



Jonathan M. Switalski
District 4
Warren
home: 586-939-1704
jon.switalski@
macombcountymi.gov



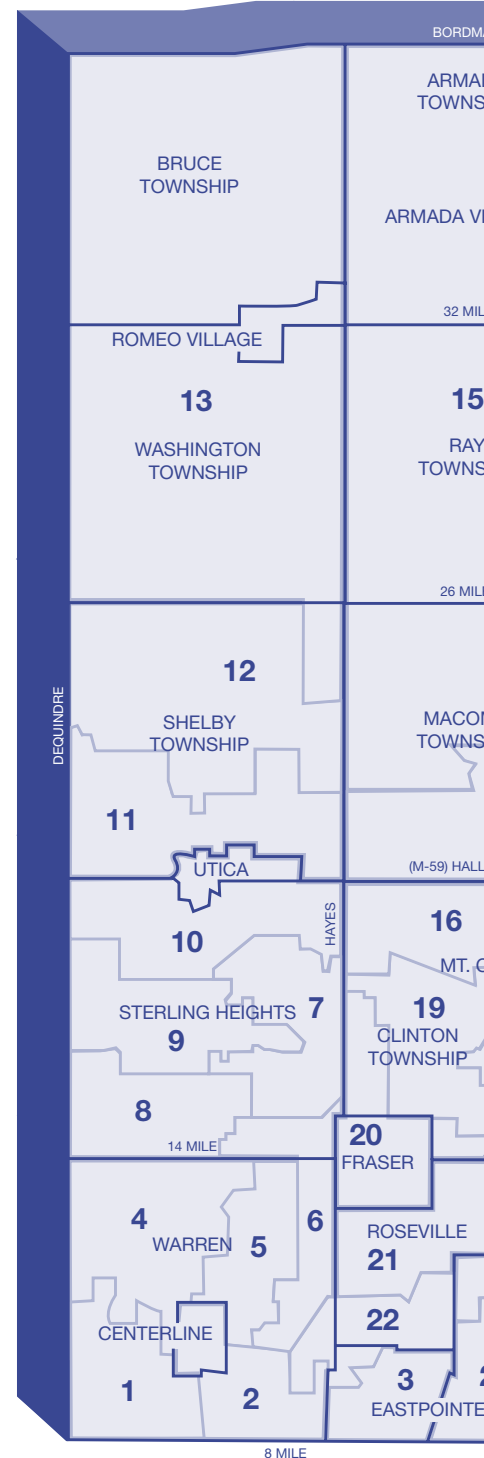
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& Utica
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desaele@
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Susan L. Doherty
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rsdoherty@
ameritech.net



Ed Szczepanski
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Shelby Township
home: 586-254-1847





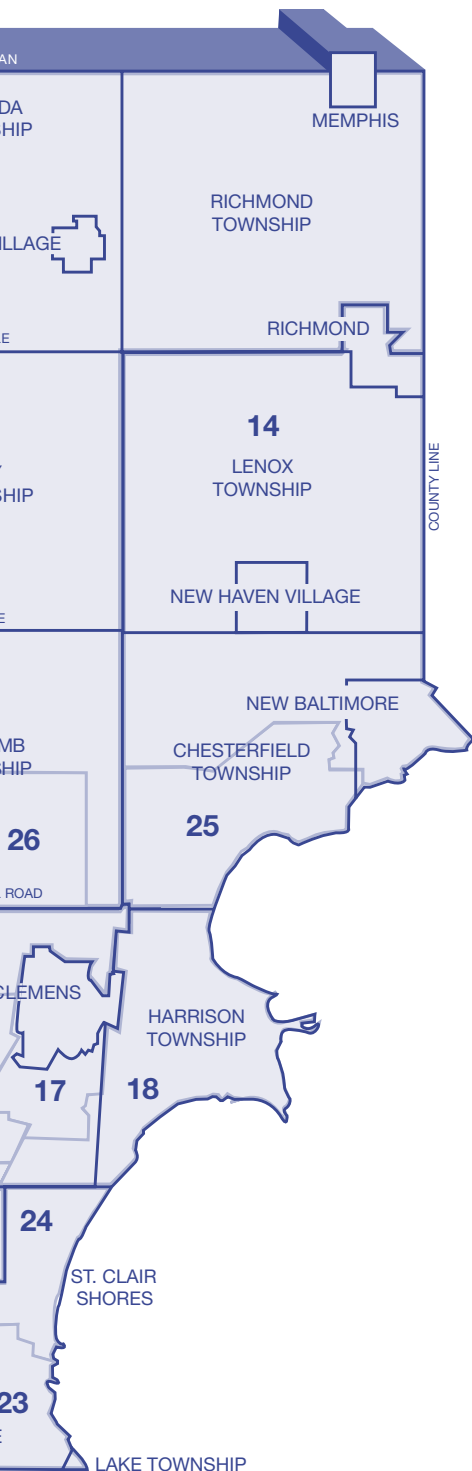
Peter J. Lund
District 12
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pjlund@prodigy.net



Don Brown
District 13
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Romeo, Shelby &
Washington townships
office: 586-469-5125
fax: 586-469-5993
don.brown@macombcountymi.gov



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paul.gielegem@macombcountymi.gov



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New Baltimore, New Haven
& City of Richmond
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Betty Slinde
District 22
Eastpointe, Roseville
& Warren
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Keith Rengert
District 15
Armada Township/Village,
Macomb, Ray, &
Richmond townships,
& Memphis
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keith@ilovemacomb.com



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& Lake Township
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billrevoir@hotmail.com



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fax: 586-469-5993



Bobby L. Hill
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& Mount Clemens
home: 586-463-5947



Kathy Vosburg
District 25
Chesterfield Township
home: 586-949-3810
fax: 586-949-9403
kathy.vosburg@macombcountymi.gov



Robert D. Gibson
District 18
Clinton &
Harrison townships
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bob.gibson@macombcountymi.gov



Nicholyn Brandenburg
District 26
Macomb Township
home: 586-286-9115
nicholyn.brandenburg@macombcountymi.gov

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

www.macombcountymi.gov

Animal Shelter

586-469-5115
21417 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

Board of Commissioners

586-469-5125
1 S. Main St., 9th Floor, Mount Clemens

Circuit Court

586-469-5351
40 N. Main St., 9th Floor, Mount Clemens

Clerk's Office

586-469-5120
40 N. Main St., 1st Floor, Mount Clemens

Community Mental Health

586-948-0222
10 N. Main St., 5th Floor, Mount Clemens

Community Services Agency

586-469-6999
21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

Emergency Management

586-469-5270
10 N. Main St., 1st Floor, Mount Clemens

Emergency Medical Services

586-469-5168
43525 Elizabeth Road, Mount Clemens

Equalization

586-469-5260
10 N. Main St., 3rd Floor, Mount Clemens

Family Independence Agency

586-469-7700
21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

Freedom Hill County Park

586-979-7010
15000 Metro Parkway, Sterling Heights

Friend of the Court

586-469-5160
40 N. Main St., 6th Floor, Mount Clemens
24-Hour Case Info Access: 586-469-7618

Head Start

586-469-5215
21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

Health Department

586-469-5235
43525 Elizabeth Road, Mount Clemens

Human Resources

586-469-5280
10 N. Main St., 4th Floor, Mount Clemens

Juvenile Court

586-469-5195
380 North Rose St., Mount Clemens

Library

586-286-6660
16480 Hall Road, Clinton Township

Macomb Food Program

586-469-6004

Martha T. Berry Medical Facility

586-469-5265
46533 Elizabeth Road, Mount Clemens

Michigan State University Extension

586-469-5180
21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

Michigan Works!

586-469-5220
21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

Ombudsman

586-469-6299
10 N. Main St., 1st Floor, Mount Clemens

Parks & Recreation

586-979-7010
15000 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights

Planning & Economic Development

586-469-5285
1 S. Main St., 7th Floor, Mount Clemens

Probate Court

586-469-5290
21850 Dunham Road, Mount Clemens

Probation - Circuit Court

586-469-5330
32 Market St., Mount Clemens

Probation - District Court

586-469-6139
32 Market St., Mount Clemens

Prosecuting Attorney

586-469-5350
1 S. Main St., 3rd & 4th Floors,
Mount Clemens

Public Affairs

586-469-5125
1 S. Main St., 9th Floor, Mount Clemens

Public Works

586-469-5325
115 S. Groesbeck Highway, Mount Clemens

Road Commission

586-463-8671
156 Malow Road, Mount Clemens
Problems - call toll free 1-800-462-1474

Senior Citizens Center

586-469-6313
21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

Sheriff

586-469-5151
43565 Elizabeth Road, Mount Clemens

Small Business & Technology Development Center

586-469-5118
1 S. Main St., 7th Floor, Mount Clemens

Treasurer

586-469-5190
1 S. Main St., 2nd Floor, Mount Clemens

Veterans Services

586-469-5315
21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

2005 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING DATES

Board meetings are held at 7 p.m.

May 19	Sept. 22
June 16	Oct. 26
July 14	Nov. 17
Aug. 11	Dec. 15

Committee Meetings

Business conducted during committee meetings is formally voted upon at full board meetings. There are 10 committees, not including ad hoc committees. Meetings are normally held on the 9th floor of the County Administration Building (One S. Main St., Mount Clemens)

MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

For committee meeting dates and times call 586-469-5125 or visit www.macombcountymi.gov

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Office of Public Affairs
586-469-5125
www.macombcountymi.gov/publicaffairs

In 2004, the Board of Commissioners created the Office of Public Affairs to ensure that the public is informed about Macomb County's activities and about the board's priorities and policies. The office offers advice to board members and department officials on all aspects of media relations and communications issues. It also coordinates communications for departments and county organizations. The Office of Public Affairs prepares and issues final drafts of news releases. Its goal is to be the source of the most current, complete and accurate information about Macomb County.

Each day, pertinent information and news releases are posted on our website. Please visit often for the up-to-the-minute information.



MACOMB COUNTY OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

The primary responsibility of the Macomb County Ombudsman is to serve the people by receiving, investigating and seeking to resolve their complaints against departments and agencies of Macomb County.

Ombudsman
phone: 586-469-6299
fax: 586-469-6795
www.macombcountymi.gov/ombudsman
e-mail: john.eddings@macombcountymi.gov

The Macomb County Ombudsman is an independent official appointed by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

The Macomb County Office of the Ombudsman is an office that:

- Objectively evaluates both sides of citizen-government controversies
- Reports to the Macomb County Board of Commissioners on issues of significance to the proper functioning of Macomb County government

- Provides investigative and informational services regarding Macomb County government
- Listens to the questions and concerns of callers and visitors to the office, provides information and referrals when appropriate, and offers advice, when necessary
- When appropriate, provides in-depth public reports to the Board of Commissioners on significant county issues, at the Ombudsman's discretion or at the discretion of the board

MACOMB COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

Offering a variety of services to a wide range of Macomb County residents, the Community Services Agency looks for ways to improve the quality of life of all it touches.

Macomb County Community Services Agency
phone: 586-469-6999
fax: 586-469-5530
www.macombcountymi.gov/mccsa

Commercial Drivers Licenses
586-469-7998

Head Start
586-469-5215

Home Injury Control Program
586-469-5012

Home Preservation/Energy
586-469-6329

Individual Development Accounts
586-469-7378

Macomb Food Program
586-469-6004

Senior Citizens Chore Services
586-469-5012

Senior Citizen Nutrition Program
(Meals-On-Wheels, Liquid Supplement Meals, Dining Senior Style)
586-469-5228

Transportation Division
586-469-5225

Community Action Centers

North Action Center
59057 Gratiot Avenue,
New Haven (27 Mile Road at Gratiot Avenue)
586-749-5146

Central Action Center
21885 Dunham Road, Suite 10, Clinton Township
(VerKuilen Building)
586-469-6964

South Action Center
22856 Ryan Road,
Warren (9 Mile Road and Ryan Road)
586-759-9150

Senior Citizen Chore Service

This valuable service helps with home maintenance and minor repairs, as well as snow removal and grass cutting. Available to all Macomb County residents age 60 years or older who meet eligibility guidelines, the service helps seniors remain independent and in their own homes. Information on the program is available at 586-469-5012.

Home Injury Control Program

This is a one-time benefit for residents who are frail or disabled (and at least 60 years old). Under the program, devices installed may include bathtub grab bars, bathtub chairs and handrails as well as a limited number of handicap ramps that can be installed on a short-term basis for a small cost-sharing fee. The ramps give people the freedom to enter and exit their homes with ease. When the ramps are no longer needed, they are removed.

Senior Citizen Nutrition Program

This umbrella program helps seniors meet their nutritional and social needs.

Included in the program is Meals-On-Wheels, designed for homebound seniors unable to prepare meals for themselves due to physical or mental impairment. Prescreened volunteers make the deliveries on a Monday through Friday basis including Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. Call us for details on the program, including opportunities to volunteer.

Also included in the Nutrition Program is the provision of Liquid Supplement Meals, an initiative that helps those who are at risk of malnutrition.

Recognizing that remaining socially active is also important, Dining Senior Style provides an opportunity for seniors to enjoy a nutritious lunchtime meal with others.

But seniors aren't the only ones helped by the Community Services Agency.

Preschool Child Development

For preschoolers, Head Start is a comprehensive child development program that serves 850 to 1,000 families per year, focusing on a goal of providing quality school readiness services and supporting healthy development for low-income children.

Head Start accepts applications year-round. Call us for details.

Community Action Centers

The MCCSA's three community action centers are the intake points for a variety of emergency services, including emergency assistance, holiday assistance, commodity food, collaboration with other human service organizations, energy programs and education, and registration for MCCSA's programs.

Other programs available to Macomb County residents include:

Commercial Drivers License (CDL) Program

This is a four-week condensed vocational opportunity that results in a successful student receiving a CDL-B license (for driving truck and buses).

Home Preservation/Energy

This division of MCCSA works to help eligible families and individuals stay warm and safe in their homes. Whole-house audits and the installation of energy-efficient measures can save up to 30 percent on heat and utility bills, making the property more affordable to the owner. Landlords and renters may participate in the program.

Individual Development Account (IDA) Program

Eligible families are provided with the opportunity to build resources and acquire education toward purchasing their first home in Macomb County. Monthly contributions to the accounts are matched by the MCCSA and the combined amount can then be used for a down payment and closing costs. There are qualifications for the program.

Macomb Food Program

Every year this program helps feed thousands of Macomb County residents who are in crisis. A network of 50 neighborhood food pantries provides emergency food boxes to those in need. The program relies on the combined efforts of many organizations and individuals who donate time, money and food to help others.



Transportation Division

This division helps eligible Macomb County residents who need rides to physician appointments, Community Action Centers or other specific locations. The vehicles are equipped with hydraulic lifts to help the frail or handicapped.

top

Experts agree that early learning programs help get children on the path for educational success. Macomb County Head Start serves nearly 1,000 pre-schoolers each year.

bottom

Everyone deserves to live in a home that is safe, clean and warm. The Macomb County Community Services Agency can provide assistance to those with low to moderate income levels.

PARKS & RECREATION

With its unique mix of recreational activities, civic and cultural amenities, community events and overall natural beauty, Macomb County is unrivaled when it comes to things to do.



top

Freedom Hill County Park, located on Metropolitan Parkway, just east of Schoenherr, offers a wide range of programs for all ages.

bottom

The amphitheater is managed by Hillside Productions and provides an intimate, outdoor venue featuring nationally and internationally acclaimed performers.

Parks & Recreation

586-979-7010

www.freedomhillcountypark.com

Ticket information

586-268-5100

www.freedomhill.net

For the Macomb County Parks & Recreation Commission, the list of events and opportunities to celebrate Macomb keeps getting bigger and bigger.

At Freedom Hill County Park in Sterling Heights, a host of events brings out the best in Macomb County's celebratory spirit.

Freedom Hill County Park also hosts outdoor flea markets from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Wednesday.

Senior Swing Dances are the third and last Wednesday of every month and the park also is the place for a number of country dances as well as exercise dance classes scheduled throughout the year.

While Freedom Hill County Park is the cornerstone venue for many events in Macomb County, other venues abound:

- The Ralph A. Liberato Independence Building (where the play *Tony n' Tina's Wedding* attracted many patrons last winter)
- The Jerome-Duncan Ford Theatre (*concerts and shows*)
- The Metropolitan Parkway Hike and Bike Path, which travels directly through Freedom Hill, making it the perfect starting point for bikers, walkers, or in-line skaters
- The Macomb Orchard Trail (recently opened at Dequindre and 24 Mile Roads) will soon lead all the way to the city of Richmond
- Ray Township's W.C. Wetzel State Park
- The Huron-Clinton Metroparks: Metro Beach in Harrison Township, Stony Creek Metropark in Washington Township and Wolcott Mill North Branch in Ray Township

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 2005:

May 1:

Bearing Burners Car Show

June 11-12

Macedonian Fest

June 18

HarleyFest

June 22

Older American Festival

July 4

County Picnic/Fireworks

July 15-17

Polish Festival

July 22-24

Italian Festival

July 30-31

Pet a Palooza

Aug. 12-14

SummerFest

Aug. 20

Bark in the Park

Aug. 21

GTO Car Show

Aug. 26-28

Fishing-Hunting Expo

Sept. 2-5

Traveling Veteran Memorial Wall

Sept. 10

L.E.T.S. E.A.T. Food Drive

Sept. 11

Battle of Brits

Sept. 23-25

Apple Harvest Fest

MICHIGAN WORKS!

The three Michigan Works! service centers in Macomb County join the more than 100 such locations throughout the state, all of which offer job seekers and the business community a number of quality, customer-friendly services.

Roseville Works Service Center
15950 12 Mile Road
586-447-9200

Clinton Township Works Service Center
43630 Hayes Road
586-263-1501

Mount Clemens Works Service Center
75 N. River Road
586-469-7702
Toll free: 1-800-285-WORKS

www.macomb-stclairworks.org

For job seekers, ranging from entry level to professionals with degrees looking for a job or a better job, the options include:

- Posting a resume in the Michigan Talent Bank (www.michworks.org), a labor exchange system that can help job seekers market their skills and abilities, as well as review thousands of job openings posted by employers
- Attending more than 30 seminars, including resume preparation, interviewing skills, job search techniques, budgeting and money management, and other related topics
- Getting up-to-date labor market information and information on training programs, including vocational training, on-the-job training, math and reading skills brush-up, and GED preparation
- Taking advantage of assessment and career counseling services



The business community can:

- Register as an employer on the Michigan Job Bank system, post employment opportunities on the system, review resumes and directly contact job seekers who have entered resumes in the system
- Access information on the Americans with Disabilities Act, tax credit programs and veteran hiring information
- Use the Small Business Resource Center, located at the Clinton Township Works Service Center. The center, established in cooperation with the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development, offers prospective business owners assistance in preparing business plans, online counseling, and access to a variety of information resources



top

Through a cooperative arrangement with the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development, free and confidential services for small business owners provide expert guidance for the successful start or expansion of a business.

bottom

Although manufacturing jobs are on the decline in the county, Michigan Works! can help displaced workers access training for the expanding field of technology.

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



top

The newly formed “GIS Users Group” provides local governments, consultants and engineering firms with up-to-date information about the county’s mapping products and programs.

bottom

Classes, offered on a continuous basis, assist would-be entrepreneurs to learn the basics of establishing a business and provide information to help existing small business owners enhance profitability.

Planning & Economic Development
586-469-5285
www.macombcountymi.gov/planning

We all want to see our county thrive and prosper. With the proper planning and economic investment, we can all look forward to a bright and exciting future in Macomb County.

Macomb County’s Department of Planning and Economic Development provides the framework for efforts that will maintain and enhance the quality of life for residents, while working toward an enhanced economic picture that will serve future generations.

Part of that involves taking advantage of what we have as a county.

County Attractions Map

Looking to purchase farm-fresh produce? Want to know where the closest public golf course is? How about finding a museum where you can soak up local history? Answers to these and other questions can be found in the colorful county attractions map, available by calling 586-469-5285.

Maps can certainly provide useful information of an entertaining value. But increasingly, they’re also a tool for developers who rely on computer imaging.

GIS Technology

Macomb County has embraced the latest Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to put those tools into the hands of those who need them most. Now, GIS data is available for purchase in the industry-standard ESRI data format.

At just 15 cents per parcel, digital tax parcel information is bound to be an advantage to all.

Even the history buffs among us will benefit from access to aerial photos taken since the 1950s.

More is coming: the GIS section is set to make select digital maps available on the web – some at no charge, others by subscription. Log on to www.macombcountymi.gov/gis for updates.

Enhanced Business Development

The department also works diligently to help attract, develop and retain businesses within Macomb County. Just last year, the Economic Development Services Program Area provided counseling to more than 900 clients (totaling more than 6,000 hours) and answered more than 5,000 calls involving business attraction, development and retention.

The department also hosted some 77 training events for more than 1,200 participants.

The results?

More than \$69 million invested in the county during 2004, with more than 1,100 jobs retained and just under 1,200 jobs created.

Homeowners Assistance

The department assists eligible homeowners make needed repairs to their residences through low-interest or deferred loans made available through the federal government. Projects must make a home safe, sanitary and energy efficient and can include siding, windows, furnace, roof, plumbing, electrical, etc. The department has assisted more than 1,000 homeowners since 1993.

Brownfield Redevelopment

The department also continues to work on facilitating brownfield redevelopment, effectively helping developers reclaim lands that can be put to good economic use.

Trailways Master Plan

This countywide plan, the first in the state of Michigan, has been completed. Put in place with funds from the Michigan Department of Transportation, the effort is designed to link residents through non-motorized travel routes and to connect trails outside county borders.



Region 10 SBTDC's Small Business of the Year award winner Karen Arondoski, owner of I.F. Metalworks in Warren with Bob Madigan, business counselor with SBTDC.

SMALL BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**Small Business & Technology
Development Center**
586-469-5118
www.misbtadc.org/region10

Housed within the Department of Planning and Economic Development, the center is helping businesses grow and achieve their goals.

Through professional assistance provided by the county at no charge, the entrepreneurial-minded can find training, research, counseling, and a variety of workshops and programs. Confidential and free one-on-one business counseling also is available from a staff of four certified business consultants.

Whether you're looking to start a business, purchase an existing establishment or grow what you've got, the Small Business and Technology Development Center has consultants trained to assess the situation, identify options and provide tools to make solid business decisions.



Business counselors are experienced and specially trained to help small business owners understand and manage the day-to-day efforts needed to develop a successful enterprise.

COUNTY CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS



Carmella Sabaugh

Keeping accurate records for the public and Macomb County offices, and issuing licenses, permits and certificates are among the many vital roles efficiently handled by the experienced and talented staff in the office of your County Clerk / Register of Deeds.

Clerk's Office
40 N. Main St., 1st Floor, Mount Clemens
586-469-5120

Register of Deeds
10 N. Main St., 2nd Floor, Mount Clemens
586-469-7953

e-mail
Clerksoffice@macombcountymi.gov

Web
www.macombcountymi.gov/clerksoffice

Fax-on-demand
1-888-99-CLERK (2-5375)

Office Responsibilities

The County Clerk issues birth and death certificates, marriage licenses, business registrations, military discharges, notary public commissions, concealed weapon permits and keeps real estate records. The clerk also keeps records for the Circuit Court, Board of Commissioners, Election Commission, Board of Canvassers, Plat Board, Civil Service Commission, Jury Commission and the Concealed Weapon Licensing Board.

Speedy Register of Deeds Sets Record!

The Register of Deeds recorded more than 2 million pages in 2003, the highest volume ever. According to the public, title companies, real estate agents and attorneys, the office has the fastest service in southeast Michigan. Macomb County had the first computerized property records scanning and indexing service for the Register of Deeds.

Deeds Online

Print a copy of your real estate deed from www.landaccess.com. Deeds are posted just five days after recording.

Overnight Delivery

If you need a copy of a vital record in a hurry, the clerk provides overnight delivery service for birth certificate requests and other vital records. You can even request your records on the clerk's website.

Businesses Online

Entrepreneurs starting a business can spend time working in their business rather than standing in line at the Clerk's Office to find out if the business name they want is already in use. Assumed name business registrations are now on the clerk's website.

Death Records Online

When researching your family tree you can find a complete index of Macomb County death records on Clerk Carmella Sabaugh's website.

Evening Hours

The Clerk's Office is now open Wednesday evenings until 7 p.m. letting people who work during the day still get personal service. Normal hours are 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (The clerk's court records section closes daily at 4:30 p.m.)

Fax-on-demand

If you need a form you can get it immediately on your fax machine by calling 1-888-99-CLERK. The service even works nights and weekends when the Clerk's Office is closed!

Mobile Office

Several times per year, the County Clerk takes her office on the road, providing local service for those who cannot drive to Mount Clemens.

Fax Filing of Court Documents

All court documents may now be filed by fax. This lets the County Clerk staff spend more time at the counter with those who need personal assistance, while allowing those familiar with the process to file quickly and efficiently.

School Election

A new law requires the clerk to run school elections in some circumstances. This year the clerk let students learn and earn by teaching more students to be official election inspectors than have ever served in the county.

Court Info on the Internet

Public Circuit Court case information is now available on the clerk's website.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



Eric Smith

The Prosecuting Attorney is the top law enforcement officer in Macomb County and proudly serves and protects all who live and work in the county.

Prosecutor's Office
586-469-5350
www.macombcountymi.gov/prosecutorsoffice

The Bad Check Restitution Team
586-469-7336

The Consumer Fraud Division
586-469-7314

The Internet Crimes Division
586-469-7303

The Senior Crimes Unit
586-469-7276

The Victims Rights Unit
586-469-5675

The Prosecuting Attorney is a sworn, impartial arbiter responsible for criminal prosecution of those who violate state criminal laws. The prosecutor represents the people of the state of Michigan in criminal matters before the District and Circuit courts, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals.

The mission of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney is to punish criminal behavior and protect the lives and livelihoods of those who live or are employed in Macomb County. The office provides a host of initiatives to ease the impact and suffering of victims and reduce criminal activity.

Protecting Victims

The Victims Rights Unit assists victims and witnesses of crimes and helps them to understand the sometimes overwhelming complexity of the criminal justice system. Specially trained victim-witness agents provide guidance and counseling to those affected by crimes or called upon to testify in court.

Protecting Seniors

The Senior Crimes Unit or SCAMS Division (Stop Crimes Against Macomb Seniors) coordinates the investigation and prosecution of crimes involving victims 65 and older. A single assistant prosecutor handles the case from beginning to end, simplifying the process for seniors. Victim-witness agents specializing in senior concerns also help ease the fright and confusion which often accompany these crimes.

Protecting the Internet

Working with the Sheriff's Macomb Area Computer Enforcement team, the Internet Crimes Division tracks down and punishes those who use computer technology to steal financial identities and set up internet scams. The I.C. Division also targets criminals who use the computer to solicit and molest children.

Protecting Consumers

The Consumer Fraud Division concentrates on investigating financial swindles, construction fraud and business-related crimes. The consumer fraud division also secures financial restitution for victims.

Protecting Merchants

Business owners in Macomb County know too well the cost and frustration caused by no-account and insufficient funds checks. The Bad Check Restitution Team brings first-time bad check writers to justice and gets restitution to the merchant for the full amount of the negotiable instrument.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSIONER



Anthony V. Marrocco

The Public Works Commissioner is responsible for the construction, operation and maintenance of 750 county drains in Macomb County. As part of his duties, he manages the Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District, which provides sewer services for 11 communities.

Public Works
586-469-5325
www.macombcountymi.gov/publicworks

Other responsibilities include management of the Chapaton and Martin retention basins, administration of the Soil Erosion Control Act, and review of subdivision plats to assure proper drainage. The Commissioner also provides an educational outreach program designed to teach the importance of preserving and protecting natural resources, especially for the county's youth.

2004 Achievements

Highlights of the year include:

Work on the \$80 million Lake St. Clair Clean Water Initiative. Massive sewer lines were installed along Jefferson Avenue and many other improvements were made.

Work related to the Illicit Discharge Elimination Program, an intensive effort to locate and eliminate illegal connections to the county's storm drain system.

An agreement with Chesterfield and Lenox Townships and the village of New Haven for the construction of the North Gratiot Interceptor, running along the Gratiot-I-94 corridor. This work will provide sewer service to northeast

Macomb County and is to be financed through bonds at a cost of approximately \$31 million.

Mount Clemens-Macomb County Partnership on Sewer Services, a cooperative agreement that will make it possible for a portion of the county's sewage flow to be diverted for treatment at the city-owned and operated wastewater treatment plant, rather than all of its wastewater going to the City of Detroit. The new arrangement means the county will pay less for services while providing additional revenue to a Macomb County municipality.

Hundreds of educational presentations to more than 6,000 students through the office's commitment to environmental stewardship. More than 800 third graders submitted artwork for consideration for a 2005 calendar featuring ecologically friendly suggestions.



Coming soon: A new building for the Public Works Office at 21777 Dunham Road, Clinton Township, next to the VerKuijen Building and the County Jail.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Mark Hackel

While law enforcement in any jurisdiction presents a unique set of challenges, the Macomb County Sheriff's Office is responding in ways that instill pride among all its citizens.

Macomb County Sheriff's Office
586-469-5151
www.macomb-sheriff.com

Macomb County Jail

A comprehensive effort to reduce overcrowding conditions in the Macomb County Jail began last year with the hiring of a nationally recognized consulting firm familiar with these issues.

The county's Criminal Justice Reform Committee then made it one of its top priorities to solve the overcrowding issue at the jail, not only by expanding the facility, but through procedural changes that would reduce duplication, share information and more efficiently process defendants through the system.

All through this period, jail staff members have continued to serve with distinction, earning their third consecutive 100 percent compliance award from the state's jail inspection program.

Office Services

Throughout Macomb County, the Sheriff's Office provides secure transportation services from the point of arraignment to various district courts.

Other services include traffic enforcement, evidence technician, polygraph and criminal investigation — work that is done not only for the eight contracted townships but for various Macomb County departments as requested.

The Sheriff's Office also is a key participant in teams that deal with child predators and online fraud, criminal surveillance and narcotics investigation, auto theft and insurance fraud, and hotel/motel narcotics interdiction.

In addition, the Sheriff's Office operates a Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team which responds to dangerous situations.

The Sheriff's Office provides contracted patrol services to Armada, Bruce, Richmond, Ray, Washington, Macomb, Harrison and Lenox townships as well as School Resource Deputies, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) Metro Park Marine Patrols, dispatch services for fire and EMS, and motor carrier assistance for the Road Commission of Macomb County.

Nowhere is the Sheriff's Office principle of community involvement more evident than in the Macomb County Sheriff's Reserves, a volunteer force that serves in seven distinct auxiliary divisions, including Aviation, All-Terrain Vehicles, Bicycle Patrol, Computer and Cyber Crimes, Marine Safety, Mounted Unit (horseback) and Motor Unit (motorcycle).

All equipment, including aircraft, is provided by the participants, who have donated nearly 11,000 hours of service to the community.



top

With 31 miles of Lake St. Clair shoreline to protect, the Macomb County Sheriff's Marine Division is equipped and ready to deal with water emergencies.

bottom

The Mounted Division is a reserve unit that is called upon for special situations. Deputies on horseback provide very effective crowd control protection and are a real people pleaser, too!

TREASURER



Ted Wahby

As the only county Treasurer's Office in Michigan to receive a NACo award, the Macomb County Treasurer provides valuable financial services to all county residents.

Treasurer
586-469-5194
www.macombcountymi.gov/treasurer

Delinquent Personal Property Taxes
586-469-5446

Land File Division
586-469-5312

Tax Information
586-469-5190

The Macomb County Treasurer's Office provides finance-related services to county residents.

Finance and Bookkeeping

As the investment officer for county funds, the Treasurer ensures taxpayers are getting the highest yield for their tax dollars at the lowest amount of risk by using sound banking and investment practices.

Public Sector

This section is responsible for certifying taxes and legal descriptions for deeds and land contracts and also assists taxpayers when they pay delinquent property taxes.

Land File

This department manages the records of approximately 349,172 individual real estate parcels, including legal descriptions, taxpayer names and addresses, and delinquent tax information. A drafting section updates and maintains the accuracy of all property line drawings by plotting new subdivisions, acreage divisions and consolidation of lots.

Delinquent Personal Property

Staff members collect delinquent taxes on behalf of 22 communities in Macomb County. They are also responsible for visiting properties prior to foreclosure and work with the property owner to identify potential sources of assistance while developing a plan to help them meet their obligations.

Winner of Five National Association of Counties Achievement Awards

In 1999, when the state changed the law that now requires the county Treasurer to foreclose on properties for non-payment of taxes, the Treasurer's Office developed procedures that followed the law but also assisted taxpayers with meeting their obligations. Since the law changed, not one occupied structure has been taken. The Macomb County Treasurer's Office was the only in Michigan to receive a NACo Award for this program.

Local Government Outreach Program

The Treasurer's Office also received an award for developing a multifaceted program that advanced intergovernmental cooperation and coordination among taxing units.

Cash Flow Projection Program

Getting more for less is a common practice in the Treasurer's Office. By establishing a system that monitors and anticipates cash flow, the Treasurer's Office is able to invest county funds for longer periods of time. As a result, the county is able to receive a higher rate of return. By operating intelligently, this program added over \$400,000 to the county General Fund in its first year. This innovation was recognized with a NACo Award in 2002.

Property Tax Charge-Back Program

The Treasurer's Office developed a two-pronged program to improve efficiencies in the charging back of uncollectible real property taxes. Through revised research procedures and the development of an innovative computer program, the office brought in more than \$700,000 in additional revenue to the county.

Personal Property Tax Collection Program

The Treasurer's Office contracts with 22 Macomb County communities to collect delinquent personal property taxes. This nationally recognized program has collected thousands of dollars that otherwise would likely have been abandoned. Successfully implementing this program helps make sure that everyone pays their fair share.

MACOMB COUNTY CIRCUIT AND PROBATE COURTS

Special programs for families dealing with divorce.

SMILE (Start Making It Livable for Everyone)

SMILE is an educational program that sensitizes parents to the difficulties encountered by children when their parents divorce.

Offered in the evening, it explains the judicial system and helps parents nurture their children during divorce.

Children in the Middle

Children in the Middle is offered monthly. It is a two-hour discussion session moderated by a family counseling professional and uses video vignettes to portray domestic relations issues.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

In 2004, the Civil/Criminal Division adopted an Alternative Dispute Resolution Plan that allows the Court to refer the parties in a case to a facilitative mediator, allowing the involved to craft their own resolutions, thus avoiding the expensive and time-consuming process of litigation.

Juvenile Division

In order to consolidate judicial operations, the Juvenile Division is moving the referees and judge to the Court building on Main Street in Mount Clemens. This will allow the Court to better serve the public, with domestic relations and juvenile cases being divided equally among the four Family Division judges after the consolidation.

Circuit Court Judges



Chief Judge
Antonio P. Viviano



Chief Judge - Pro Tem
James M. Biernat, Sr.



Honorable
Richard L. Caretti



Honorable
Mary A. Chrzanowski



Honorable
Diane M. Druzinski



Honorable
Peter J. Maceroni



Honorable
Donald G. Miller



Honorable
Edward A. Servitto, Jr.



Honorable
Deborah A. Servitto



Honorable
Mark S. Switalski



Honorable
Matthew S. Switalski



Honorable
Tracey A. Yokich

Probate Court

Macomb County Probate Court has established several programs to assist residents. The Guardianship/Conservatorship Mediation Service is offered in collaboration with the Macomb Resolution Center. The program offers a non-court setting to help parties with issues related to the care of adults and minors. The mediation process assists the parties to identify issues and to cooperatively agree to solutions without court intervention. The court's unique Minor Guardianship Department centers on a court program that assists children in need of placement with third-party guardians for a variety of reasons, such as parental death, incarceration, unsuitability or disability.

Contact: www.macombcountymi.gov/probatecourt or call 586-469-5290.

Probate Court Judges



Chief Probate Judge
Pamela Gilbert
O'Sullivan



Probate Judge
Kathryn A. George

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COLLECTIVE ASSETS MAKE MACOMB A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK

- Macomb is the third largest county in Michigan with nearly 825,000 residents
- Macomb is 482 square miles with easy access to three interstate highways
- Most of the county's eastern border rests on Lake St. Clair. The county has 31 miles of shoreline. Boating is a popular pastime; there are more than 47,000 registered pleasure craft owners in the county served by more than 100 marinas offering 10,000+ slips
- More than 130 parks, covering 12,000 acres, are managed by the state, regional, county and local government. Five staffed nature centers provide special programs for the public. With Phase 1 of the Macomb Orchard Trail completed, this linear park will soon provide 24 miles for recreational, non-motorized travel
- There are nearly 40 golf courses and a variety of other recreational centers including ice and in-line skating arenas and a skateboard park that attracts national competitions
- Twenty-one hotels provide 2,602 rooms. Some feature top-notch conference and banquet facilities, fitness centers – even a thrilling indoor water park is available!
- Retail centers occupy more than 19 million square feet including three regional shopping centers, six old-fashioned downtowns, nearly 40 farmers markets and a multitude of farms and orchards that offer plants, trees and “pick-your-own” fruits
- World-renowned performances are featured at several major venues, and hundreds of smaller establishments feature live entertainment. There are more than 50 historic sites, museums and art galleries. More than 2,100 restaurants serve up an experience for every taste
- The average household income in Macomb County is \$52,102 – the third highest in all of Michigan. The top three jobs are manufacturing, wholesale/retail trade and professional business services
- The top three employers are General Motors, DaimlerChrysler and Ford Motor Company. However, 95 percent of all businesses in Macomb County employ less than 50 people
- More homes are occupied by residents than in any other county in Michigan; nearly 79 percent. The median value of a home is \$139,200
- There are 21 school districts, 11 public academies and more than 200 private/parochial schools within the county – many with the coveted distinction of “Blue Ribbon”
- Baker College recently opened a campus in Clinton Township that offers four-year degree programs. Macomb Community College, the nation's second largest community college, offers a wide range of programs as well as bachelor and master's programs through nine prominent universities
- Six hospitals provide nearly 1,400 beds with top-rated centers specializing in cardiac care, cancer treatment and orthopedic surgery



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Macomb County
Board of Commissioners
1 S. Main St., 9th Floor
Mount Clemens, MI 48043

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